



HR0592

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate William Norwood  
4 for his many accomplishments in the aviation field and his  
5 continuous work within his community; and

6           WHEREAS, William Norwood was born in Centralia; he attended  
7 Lincoln Elementary and Centralia Township High Schools; he  
8 graduated from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in  
9 1959 with a degree in chemistry; he was also the first black  
10 quarterback of the university's football team; he received his  
11 M.B.A. from the University of Chicago in 1974, with an emphasis  
12 in International Labor Relations; and

13           WHEREAS, William Norwood's work career began at age 10,  
14 selling The Grit newspaper; he spent most subsequent summers  
15 working in carpentry with his father; he served in the United  
16 States Air Force from 1959 to 1965, primarily flying the B-52;  
17 he joined United Airlines in 1965, where he has flown all  
18 cockpit positions and many different commercial airplanes; in  
19 February 1996, he retired from United Airlines as a DC-10  
20 Captain after an exemplary 31-year career; and

21           WHEREAS, William Norwood was a member of the SIU Board of  
22 Trustees from 1974 to 2001; he is a member of the Airline

1 Pilots Association; and he is a member of the Organization of  
2 Black Airline Pilots, where he has served multiple terms as  
3 treasurer, president, and chairman of the board; and

4 WHEREAS, In honor of his achievements in aviation and  
5 education and his 31 years of dedicated service to United  
6 Airlines, William Norwood's name was painted on a United  
7 Airlines Boeing 727 at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry  
8 on February 6, 1996; and

9 WHEREAS, William Norwood continues to be active within his  
10 community; he is an organizer and instructor for the Southern  
11 Illinois Flight Academy, a basic flight training camp for young  
12 people in the Carbondale area; he spends time mentoring,  
13 tutoring, visiting schools, and giving motivational and career  
14 talks; he is an active member of the First United Methodist in  
15 Carbondale; he enjoys tennis, hunting, fishing, flying radio  
16 control airplanes, and golfing; and

17 WHEREAS, William Norwood has been the recipient of many  
18 awards and honors, including the United Airlines Community  
19 Relations Award, the United Flight Operations Special  
20 Achievement Award, United Airlines ORD Captain of the Year  
21 Award, Chicago Pilot Examiners Association President's Award,  
22 the Reach for the Stars Award for Outstanding Graduate of  
23 Centralia City Schools, the SIU College of Science Alumni

1 Achievement Award, the Carbondale Lions Club David Kenney  
2 Outstanding Service to Country and Community Award, the  
3 Meridian High School Commencement Award, the Phi Delta Kappa  
4 International Certificate of Recognition, the Black History  
5 Month SIU Guest Speaker Award, the Chicagoan of the Year Award,  
6 The Black Professional Organization Inc. Outstanding  
7 Achievement and Leadership Award, the SIU First Honorary Alumni  
8 Award from the Black Aviation Association, the Award of Merit  
9 from the Educational Council of 100 and SIUC, the Phi Delta  
10 Kappa Lay Leaders in Education Award, the Black Affairs Council  
11 Outstanding Leadership Award, the Department of Transportation  
12 Certificate of Appreciation, the SIUC Distinguished Alumni  
13 Award, and the Service to Southern Illinois Award from the  
14 Jackson County SIUC Alumni Association; and

15 WHEREAS, William Norwood and his wife, Molly, are life  
16 members of the SIU Alumni Association and the NAACP; Mr.  
17 Norwood and his family have established 2 scholarships for SIUC  
18 students; and an endowment at the Southern Illinois University  
19 Public Policy Institute has been established in Bill and Molly  
20 Norwood's name; and

21 WHEREAS, William Norwood's dedication to his profession  
22 and his willingness to serve his community make him a model for  
23 the people of the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3           congratulate William Norwood on his many accomplishments in the  
4           aviation field and his continuous work within his community and  
5           wish him continued success and happiness in the future; and be  
6           it further

7           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8           presented to William Norwood as a symbol of our esteem and  
9           respect.